Application No.:

10/699,747

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LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

- 1. (**Original**) A method for treating the skin of a patient, comprising:
- (a) providing an instrument body with a distal working surface that carries an abrading structure for engaging and abrading the skin together with a vacuum source coupled to at least one aperture about said working surface,
- (b) translating the working surface device over the skin to thereby abrade the skin surface; and
- (c) contemporaneously actuating the vacuum source to thereby cause suction engagement of the skin against the working surface and to aspirate skin debris through the at least one aperture.
- 2. (**Original**) The method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a fluid to the skin to enhance suction engagement of the skin against the working surface.
- 3. (**Original**) The method as in claim 2 wherein the fluid is provided from a fluid source to a distal region of the instrument body.
- 4. (**Original**) The method as in claim 3 wherein the fluid is provided from a fluid source to at least one outflow port in the working surface.
- 5. (**Original**) The method as in claim 2 wherein the fluid is provided with a pharmacologically-active agent for treating skin.
- 6. (**Original**) The method as in claim 2 wherein the fluid is provided with an agent selected from the class consisting of citric acid and lactic acid.
- 7. (**Original**) The method as in claim 2 wherein the fluid is provided with an agent selected from the class comprising TCA (trichloroacetic acid), glycolic acid, alphahydroxy acid (AHA).
- 8. (**Original**) The method as in claim 2 wherein the fluid is provided with an acid for etching the skin surface.
- 9. (**Original**) The method as in claim 2 wherein the fluid is provided with a crystalline abrasive.
- 10. (**Original**) The method as in claim 1 wherein step (a) provides a working surface with undulations for increasing the area of the working surface for engaging skin.

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11. (Withdrawn) A system for treating the skin surface of a patient, comprising an instrument body with a working surface that carries an abrading structure for abrading skin, at least one opening in the working surface coupled to a passageway that extends to a remote vacuum source for suctioning the skin against the working surface, wherein the abrading structure defines a multiplicity of sharp apices for abrading tissue.

- 12. (**Withdrawn**) The system of Claim 11 wherein the abrading structure is carries about a plurality of undulations in the working surface.
- 13. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 11 further comprising at least one media inflow port in the working surface for delivering a flowable media to the skin during treatment.
- 14. (Withdrawn) The system of Claim 11 wherein the at least one media inflow port in the working surface communicates with a fluid media canister in the instrument body.